Results of the 2001 Child and Family Services Reviews

Introduction

During Federal fiscal year 2001, the Administration on Children and Families (ACF) conducted Child and Family Services Reviews (CFSR) in the following 17 States:

Arizona	Indiana	North Carolina
Arkansas	Kansas	North Dakota
Delaware	Massachusetts	Oregon
District of Columbia	Minnesota	South Dakota
Florida	New Mexico	Vermont
Georgia	New York	

ACF issued final reports of each State's CFSR and is posting the final reports on the Children's Bureau website. The individual State reports provide State-specific results.

Findings on the Outcomes

Table 1 shows the number of States determined to be in substantial conformity on each of the seven outcomes in the CFSR and the strength and area needing improvement ratings on the indicators for each outcome.

Table 1

Outcomes and Indicators	States in Substantial Conformity	States not in Substantial Conformity	Strength	Area Needing Improvement
Safety Outcome 1: Children are, first and foremost, protected from abuse and neglect.	3	14		
Item 1.Timeliness of initiating investigations			11	6
Item 2. Repeat maltreatment			7	10
Safety Outcome 2: Children are safely maintained in their own homes whenever possible and appropriate.	4	13		
Item 3. Services to protect children & prevent removal			8	9
Item 4. Risk of harm to children			6	11
Permanency Outcome 1: Children have permanency and stability in their living situations.	0	17		
Item 5. Foster care re-entries			8	9
Item 6. Stability of foster care placements			4	13
Item 7. Permanency goal for child			3	14
Item 8. Reunification, guardianship, relative placement			8	9
Item 9. Adoption			4	13

Item 10. Other planned permanent living arrangement			10	7
Permanency Outcome 2: The continuity of family relationships and connections is preserved for children.	4	13		
Item 11. Proximity of foster care placement			17	0
Item 12. Placement with siblings			14	3
Item 13. Visiting with parents and siblings in care			8	9
Item 14. Preserving connections			14	3
Item 15. Relative placement			15	2
Item 16. Relationship of child in care with parents			12	5
Well Being Outcome 1: Families have enhanced capacity to provide for their children's needs.	0	17		
Item 17. Needs/services of child, parents, foster parents			1	16
Item 18. Child/family involvement in case planning			5	12
Item 19. Worker visits with child			6	11
Item 20. Worker visits with parents			7	10
Well Being Outcome 2: Children receive appropriate services to meet their educational needs.	4	13		
Item 21. Educational needs of child			4	13
Well Being Outcome 3: Children receive adequate services to meet their physical and mental health needs.	1	16		
Item 22. Physical health of child			6	11
Item 23. Mental health of child			1	16

Table 2 shows the number of States that met the national standards associated with the six aggregate data indicators used in the CFSR.

Table 2

Indicator	National Standard	Number of States Meeting the National Standard
Recurrence of maltreatment	6.1% or less	7
Child abuse and neglect in foster care	0.57% or less	9
Foster care re-entries	8.6% or less	8
Length of time to reunification	76.2% or more	6
Length of time to adoption	32% or more	5
Stability of placement	86.7% or more	4

Findings on the Systemic Factors

Table 3 shows the number of States determined to be in substantial conformity on each of the seven systemic factors in the CFSR.

Table 3

Systemic Factor	Number of States in Substantial Conformity	Required Elements	Number of States that met the requirement
Statewide Information System	14	• Information system that can identify specific information for each child in foster care	• 14
Case Review System	11	• Written case plan developed jointly with parents • Periodic reviews of case plans • Permanency hearings for children • Process for termination of parental rights • Notification of foster and pre-adoptive parents of hearings and reviews	• 6 • 15 • 11 • 12 • 14
Quality Assurance System	15	• Standards for quality services • Identifiable quality assurance system	• 15 • 11
Staff and Provider Training	12	• Initial staff training • Ongoing staff training • Training for foster and adoptive parents	• 12 • 10 • 14
Service Array	12	• Array of services • Accessibility of services • Ability to individualize services	• 11 • 6 • 13
Agency Responsiveness to Community	17	• Collaboration with other agencies • Develops annual progress reports • Coordinates services and benefits with other agencies	• 17 • 14 • 13
Foster and Adoptive Parent Licensing, Recruitment, Retention	15	• Standards for foster and adoptive homes • Standards applied to all homes • Criminal background checks • Diligent recruitment • Use of cross-jurisdictional resources	• 17 • 16 • 16 • 6 • 15